

Palmer
Replacing BBC
Coverage

9 January 1980

MEMORANDUM FOR: Special Assistant for Operations,
DDS&T

FROM:

Chief, Executive and Planning Staff,
FBIS

SUBJECT: Replacement of BBC Support to FBIS

D/FBIS
DD/FBIS
C/E&PS
C/LRB
CMO
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C/PROD
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C/ADMIN
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EXEC. REG.

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1. FBIS and the BBC Monitoring Service have maintained a coordinated monitoring program of the world's radio media since 1942. The arrangement was confirmed and formalized in 1948, after FBIS became a part of CIA. The two services each have exclusive responsibility for coverage of specified countries or regions. The assigned responsibilities are occasionally adjusted to meet changed requirements, priorities, and monitoring capabilities of both services. Each service is at all times entitled to the entire take of the other. Each treats the other's requirements as its own. The BBC is serviced like FBIS Headquarters during communications minimizes. It contributes 25 to 30 percent of the total FBIS file.

2. The present division of coverage between the two services is as follows:

- BBC:
- + Moscow domestic and selected international service broadcasts
 - + Selected Soviet regional broadcasts
 - + West Europe
 - + Northern East European Satellites
 - + North Africa
 - + Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, and selected other Middle East broadcasts
 - + East and southern Africa to extent its limited capabilities permit.

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SUBJECT: Replacement of BBC Support to FBIS

- FBIS:
- + Selected Soviet international and regional broadcasts
 - + Southern East European satellites
 - + Moscow and East European TV
 - + All other Middle East broadcasts
 - + PRC
 - + South, Southeast, and East Asia
 - + West Africa
 - + Western Hemisphere

3. The BBC monitors its European, North African and Middle East targets from its headquarters at Caversham, Reading, Berks, UK, where it maintains a large building and a separate antenna installation. In addition, the BBC has a monitoring installation at Nairobi, Kenya, from where it monitors broadcasts from East and Central Africa, and a two-man facility in Lilongwe, Malawi for its southern Africa coverage. It also has one-man recording/monitoring operations in Berlin and Stockholm.

4. TAB A shows what it would cost FBIS to replace the BBC's coverage under two options: (a) assuming FBIS leases the BBC's facilities in Caversham, and (b) assuming FBIS has to build a comparable facility in the UK. Under both options, FBIS would take over the BBC's Nairobi facility and add personnel to its own planned bureau in southern Africa to handle the Malawi coverage. The costs would be:

Option (a): \$6,250,000 14 positions

Option (b): \$7,885,000 14 positions

5. All portions of this memorandum are classified CONFIDENTIAL.

FOR THE DIRECTOR, FBIS:

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Attachments:
TABS A-C

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FBIS/E&PS

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Distribution:

- 0 - Addressee, w/atts
- 6 - Retained in FBIS

Distribution in FBIS:

- 1 - D/FBIS, w/atts
- 1 - D/FBIS Chrono, w/atts
- 1 - PO/RA, w/atts
- 1 - E&PS Chrono, w/atts
- 1 - BBC Chrono, w/atts
- 1 - FBIS Reg., w/atts

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